

CONFIDENTIAL

December 23, 1955

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PA - Mr. Raymond E. Lisle

PA- D. E. Boster

Gesellschaft fur Ost-Europa Kunde

In my memorandum to Mr. O'Shaughnessy of September 17, 1955 reporting a conversation with Gerhardt von Mende, Chief of the Federal Office for Foreign Refugees, I noted that von Mende was concerned with elaborating some method for controlling the extensive cultural interchange which he is certain the Soviets intend to develop now as one of their primary means for undermining West German support for Western foreign policy. He said some thought had been given to designating the Gesellschaft fur Ost-Europa Kunde at Stuttgart as the control agency, but that he thought this was impracticable.

*main lesson
for Eastern
Europe study*

I learned in a conversation with Brautigam this week that it is he who is behind the idea of using the Gesellschaft in the above manner and that he still favors it. Hans Schumann is the managing director of the Gesellschaft and Klaus Mehnert its general secretary.

There was no opportunity to pursue it further with Brautigam, but I shall try to keep informed of any progress in this matter.

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